



## 2012 Superintendent's Compendium

### Of Designations, Closures, Permit Requirements and Other Restrictions Imposed Under Discretionary Authority.

In accordance with regulations and the delegated authority provided in Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations (36 CFR), Chapter 1, Parts 1-7, authorized by Title 16 United States Code, Section 3, the following regulatory provisions are established for the proper management, protection, government and public use of those portions of Carlsbad Caverns National Park under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service. Unless otherwise stated, these regulatory provisions apply in addition to the requirements contained in 36 CFR, Chapter 1, Parts 1-7.



Approved:

/S/John Benjamin (original, signed copy on file)  
John C. Benjamin, Superintendent

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## **I. 36 CFR §1.5 – Visiting Hours, Public Use Limits, Closures, and Area Designations for Specific Use or Activities**

**(a)(1) The following visiting hours and public use limits are established for the listed portions of the park, and the following closures are established for the indicated areas and activities:**

### **Visiting Hours:**

Summer Hours: (Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day)

Visitor Center	8:00 am—7:00 pm
Big Room Route Entry	8:30 am—4:00 pm
Natural Entrance Route Entry	8:30 am—3:30 pm
Main Corridor Hike Out to Natural Entrance	8:30 am—3:30 pm

Off-Season Hours: (Tuesday after Labor Day until Memorial Day weekend)

Visitor Center	8:00 am—5:00 pm
Big Room Route Entry	8:30 am—3:30 pm
Natural Entrance Route Entry	8:30 am—2:00 pm
Main Corridor Hike Out to Natural Entrance	8:30 am—1:00 pm

Walnut Canyon Desert Drive (Loop Road)	8:00 am-4:30 pm off season and either 5:30 or 6:30 pm in summer depending on evening batflight times
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Picnic Areas and developed area parking lots	7:00 am -1 1/2 hour after sunset
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Rattlesnake Springs Picnic Area	Open ½ hour before sunrise Closes ½ hour after sunset
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### **Public Use Limits:**

#### **Minimum Age Limitations**

- **All cave areas:** Persons under the age of 16 are prohibited from entering any cave except when accompanied by, and under the direct supervision of, a responsible adult 18 years of age or older.
- **King's Palace Tour:** Minimum age – 4 years.
- **Left Hand Tunnel:** Minimum age – 6 years
- **Slaughter Canyon Cave:** Minimum age – 8 years.
- **Lower Cave, Hall of the White Giant, Spider Cave:** Minimum age – 12 years.
- **Designated recreational caves:** Caves requiring vertical access – 16 years, horizontal access – 12 years.

#### **Carlsbad Cavern Public Use Limitations**

- **Safety and resource protection orientation:** All visitors are required to attend a safety and resource protection orientation upon their initial entry into tour caves.
- **White Nose Syndrome Prevention:** Possession and/or use of any footwear, clothing, equipment, or any other items that have been present in any cave or mine that has been identified as a potential source for White Nose Syndrome in bats is prohibited in any cave within Carlsbad Caverns National Park. In adherence to the park's White Nose Syndrome mitigation plan, all persons entering caves are required to be screened for WNS and if necessary to

undergo approved decontamination procedures on footwear and equipment before entering any cave.

- **Supervision of Children:** An adult 18 years of age or older shall be responsible for, and in direct supervision of, persons under the age of 16.
- **Traffic Flow:** The Main Corridor trail of Carlsbad Cavern is two-way traffic into/out of the cave's Natural Entrance. It is permissible to hike up from 8:30am – 1:00pm or walk down from 8:30 am - 2:00pm in the off season and hike up or walk down from 8:30 am - 3:30 in the summer season. The Big Room trail is one-way traffic from its start at the Underground Rest Area to its end at the elevator lobby.
- **Foot Travel:** Foot travel within the Cavern is restricted to the paved trails in the self guided sections or on other marked paths while accompanied by a Park Service guide except where authorized by a permit in accordance with section 1.5(d).

### **Mobility Assistance Devices in Caves**

- **Strollers:** Strollers, baby carriages, and similar devices are prohibited in all caves except as necessary for handicapped children when used in wheelchair-designated areas.
- **Wheelchairs:** Wheelchairs and similar devices are prohibited in all caves except that wheelchairs are allowed within the wheelchair-designated portions of the Big Room of Carlsbad Cavern.
- **Walking Sticks:** The possession and/or use of walking sticks, except those that are medically necessary within any cave are prohibited. They shall not be used to poke or point at formations in the caves.

### **Clothing in Public Areas**

- Shirts and footwear are required in public areas including all caves and buildings.

### **Bat Flight**

- **Cameras:** The possession and/or use of cameras in the Bat Flight Amphitheater during bat flight programs or during any portion of a bat flight is prohibited.

*Closure/Determination Justification: Scientific observations indicate that the use of (cameras and/ or camera strobes in or around an ascending bat flight from a cave are detrimental. Further scientifically valid studies to confirm these observations would be detrimental to the bat population and are not compatible with NPS research guidelines.*

- **Electronic Devices:** The use of video cameras, cell phones, pagers, MP 3 players and other electronic devices not mentioned herein during bat flight programs is prohibited.

**Food Consumption in Caves:** The possession or consumption of food and drink (except plain unflavored water) is prohibited in any cave except in the Underground Rest Area in Carlsbad Cavern or as authorized in cave survey or restoration permits. Diabetics and persons with other medical conditions requiring them to consume food and drink while they're in the cave are permitted on a limited basis.

*Closure Determination/Justification: Food use has the potential for cave contamination, increased litter, and increased animal attraction into cave areas not usually frequented by wildlife. Cave survey and restoration projects may involve extensive travel and/or multiple day expeditions and food use will be permitted for the health and safety of cave workers in specific permitted instances.*

**Tobacco Use in Caves:** Any use of tobacco products is not allowed inside caves or government facilities.

*Closure Determination/Justification: Tobacco use has the potential for cave contamination, increased litter, and increased animal attraction into cave areas not usually frequented by wildlife.*

**Backpacks in Caves:** Backpacks are not permitted in off trail tours including:

- **Left Hand Tunnel**
- **Lower Cave**
- **Hall of the White Giant**
- **Spider Cave**
- **Slaughter Canyon Cave**

*Closure Determination/Justification: Off trail tours have narrow passageways in which backpacks can cause damage to fragile speleothems.*

*Fanny packs (and Specialized “Cave Packs”) may be utilized in place of backpacks. Backpacks will be allowed for the hike to and from Slaughter Canyon Cave where they can then leave their backpacks at the entrance behind the locked gate if determined by Park personnel to be too bulky or a danger to the cave for the specific tour. At Spider Cave they must leave their backpacks on “S” hooks on the ladder.*

**Tri-pods, bi-pods and mono-pods:** Use of these devices are not allowed on any guided tours.

*Closure Determination/Justification: To maintain traffic flow pattern and prevention of resource damage and congestion*

#### ***Touching Formations –***

Touching or otherwise disturbing cave formations is prohibited. Touching includes any contact made between cave formations and a person, article of clothing or other physical object.

*Closure Determination/Justification: Touching cave formations and cave surfaces with hands or equipment can cause the following forms of resource damage: Breakage and physical damage. Staining, discoloration and polishing. Disruption of desired natural conditions including mineral, chemical and microbiological disruptions.*

#### **Guided Tour Public Use Limits (excluding tour guides)**

- **King’s Palace Tour:** 55 persons maximum
- **Left Hand Tunnel:** 15 persons maximum
- **Slaughter Canyon Cave:** 20 persons maximum
- **Lower Cave:** 12 persons maximum
- **Hall of the White Giant, Spider Cave:** 8 persons maximum
- **Recreational permit cave:** As specified in permit.

#### **Groups with Educational Fee Waivers**

- **Designated Lunch Area:** The designated lunch area for groups with educational fee waivers is the picnic area located at the southeast corner of the east visitor center parking lot or other areas as designated by Park Personnel.

#### **Unattended Pets in Parking Areas**

- Pets shall not be left unattended in vehicles when the ambient air temperature, as recorded by the weather station at Bat Cave Draw, is predicated at or above 70 degrees Fahrenheit. These unattended pets will be removed from the vehicles and impounded at the owner’s expense.

*Closure/Determination Justification: On warm days temperatures in closed motor vehicles can rise quickly to levels dangerous to the life and health of animals. These unattended animals can cause public nuisance and alarm when noticed by concerned passersby.*

### **Pet Excrement Disposal**

- All solid waste must be picked up and disposed of immediately in outdoor trash receptacles with the exception of residential yards.

### **Public Use Permits:**

**Recreational permit cave:** Use permits may be issued at the discretion of the Cave Resources Specialist or the Superintendent per the guidelines established in the Carlsbad Caverns National Park Cave and Karst Management Plan. The conditions for Recreational permit cave use stated in the Cave and Karst Management Plan are adopted as a part of this document.

### **After-Hours Tours of Carlsbad Cavern**

- **Big Room After-Hours Tours:** Subject to the terms and conditions of a Special Use Permit and the conditions in SOP 06-07, after-hours tours of the Big Room may be offered.

### **Backcountry Camping Permits**

- Permits for backcountry camping may be issued at the discretion of park staff. Permits may only be issued to persons 18 years of age or older.

### **Closures:**

**Area Closures:** The following areas are closed to the public except when access is authorized by the Superintendent:

- Upper and Lower Painted Grotto

*Closure Determination/Justification: The Upper and Lower Painted Grotto archeological sites are especially sensitive. Any use beyond that which is authorized by the Superintendent holds a strong potential for damage, even inadvertent damage. In authorizing visitation to these sites, the Superintendent will consider the requesting party's/escort's knowledge of appropriate behavior around archeological sites and the purpose for the visit.*

- All rock art and other archeological sites except those specially open to the public are closed to visitation. Permits may be issued at the discretion of the Superintendent (or the Cultural Resources Specialist). Guidelines for research at rock art and other archeological sites are that the researcher has approval from the Superintendent and an acceptable Research Plan. Approval to visit or conduct research at sites will be determined on a case-by-case and a need-to-know basis.

*Closure Determination/Justification: cultural resources such as rock art and other archeological sites are non-renewable and irreplaceable. Congress has passed numerous laws to protect these invaluable resources and the park is steward of these resources. In order to protect these resources the park has set these guidelines of closure.*

- Nature Trail, immediately before and during bat flight programs

*Closure Determination/Justification: Public use of the Nature Trail has the strong potential to disturb the bat flight and to create an unnecessary public distraction from the events of the flight due to the close proximity of the trail to the typical flight pattern. The trail remains open for use for the majority of the day and an early evening closure will not create an undue impact on visitors' ability to use the trail.*

- Maintenance yard and employee residence area, excluding invited guests

*Closure Determination/Justification: Public entry to the maintenance yard increases the risk of injury to both the public and employees. The need for privacy and security in the employees' residences is not compatible with public use in this area.*

- Construction zones as delineated by signage and/or fencing

**Areas closed to pets:** All surface and cave areas within Carlsbad Caverns National Park are closed to pets with the exception of the following:

- On and within 30 feet of paved pullouts and paved parking areas on the surface.
- Along the non-paved Walnut Canyon Desert Drive (Loop Road).
- The NPS employee housing area.
- Permian Drive and Reef Top Drive.
- All paved nature trails excluding the Natural Entrance Trail.
- Bat Draw road and parking area.
- Rattlesnake Springs picnic area and roadways.

**Vehicle Use Restrictions:** The following roads are closed to vehicles in excess of 9 feet wide or 25 feet in total length (combined length including towed vehicles or trailers)

- Walnut Canyon Desert Drive (Loop Road)
- All backcountry roads
- The park is closed to the operation of All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) or Off Highway Vehicles (OHVs).

*Closure Determination/ Justification: Roads at Carlsbad Caverns National Park are not engineered to handle traffic from the vehicles specified in this closure. The use of these vehicles will likely result in damage to park resources and to personal property and pose a risk for personal injury.*

- Parking in the Bat Flight Amphitheater Parking Lot is restricted to 9 handicapped standard parking stalls only. Unloading of bus and other vehicle passengers is permitted in the Bat Flight Amphitheater Parking Lot.
- Other vehicle use restrictions may be imposed due to hazardous weather conditions or due to high fire danger.

**Radar/Laser Detectors and Jammers:** All park areas are closed to operation of motor vehicles equipped with any device or mechanism, passive or active, to detect or purposefully interfere with or diminish the measurement capabilities of any radar, laser, or other device or mechanism employed by law-enforcement personnel to measure the speed of motor vehicles.

*Closure Determination/Justification: Posted speed limits have been set with regard to the welfare of park wildlife, park visitors, and park employees. The use of devices that impede the accurate measurement of vehicle speeds by law enforcement officers is contrary to the maintenance of public health and safety within the park.*

**Commercial Vehicles:** All park roads are closed to commercial vehicles except for those engaged in official business with or in direct support of the National Park Service, concessionaires, or Carlsbad Caverns Guadalupe Mountains Association.

*Closure Determination/Justification: Commercial vehicle traffic on government roads in national parks is prohibited by virtue of 36 CFR 5.6(b).*

**Fishing:** Recreational fishing within Carlsbad Caverns National Park is prohibited.

**(a)(2) *The following areas have been designated for a specific use or activity, under the conditions and/or restrictions as noted:***

**Wedding Ceremonies:** Wedding ceremonies are prohibited in all caves.

**Technical Climbing:** Climbing on rock faces is not permitted within view of the park entrance road. The use of bolts, pitons, and other climbing hardware that damages or scars the rock surface in above-ground areas is prohibited. The use of climbing hardware in caves will be in accordance with the permit issued for the trip.

**The following restrictions and/or conditions are in effect for specific uses or activities:**

**Passenger-carrying busses** are subject to the following conditions/restrictions on all park roads within Carlsbad Caverns National Park:

- Busses must shut down their engines when not underway.
- School busses may park adjacent to the picnic area at the southeast corner of the east visitor center parking lot to facilitate school group lunch breaks.

## **II. 36 CFR §1.6 – Activities that Require a Permit**

**(f) The following is a compilation of those activities for which a permit from the superintendent is required:**

§1.5(d) – The following activities related to Public Use Limits:

- Entering any cave
- Entering areas within Carlsbad Cavern that are not on the paved trail system.
- After-hours entry of Carlsbad Cavern
- Technical climbing

§2.4(d)(4) – *Carrying or possessing a weapon, trap, or net* It is no longer necessary for the Superintendent to issue a permit allowing firearms on the surface of the park. It is still necessary for the Superintendent to issue a permit for any traps or nets to be carried and/or possessed in the park.

- Guided tour caves within the boundaries of Carlsbad Caverns National Park are considered “Federal Facilities”. Despite New Mexico concealed carry law, no weapons, traps or nets will be allowed into the guided tour caves unless authority is granted by the Superintendent. Law Enforcement Officers may be exempt from permit requirements for weapons.
- A permit may be issued when necessary to support approved/permitted research activities:
  - *Possession or use of weapons, traps and/or nets.*
  - *For persons in charge of pack trains and saddle horses for emergency use.*
  - By licensed hunters legally accessing lands bordering Carlsbad Caverns National Park when other means of access are impractical or impossible.
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§2.5(a) – Specimen collection (Taking plants, fish, wildlife, rocks, or minerals)

§2.10(a) – The following camping activities:

- Overnight camping

§2.12 – Audio Disturbances

- (a)(2) – Operating a chain saw
- (a)(3) – Operation of any type of portable motor or engine, or device powered by a portable motor or engine in non-developed areas
- (a)(4) – Operation of a public address system in connection with a public gathering or special event for which a permit has been issued pursuant to §2.50 or §2.51

§2.17(a)(3) – Delivery or retrieval of a person or object by parachute, helicopter or other airborne means

- (c)(1) – Removal of a downed aircraft

§2.23 – Special recreation activities

§2.50(a) – Conducting a sports event, pageant, regatta, public spectator attraction, entertainment, ceremony, and similar events

§2.51(a) – Public assemblies, meetings, gatherings, demonstrations, parades and other public expressions of views

§2.52(c) – Sale or distribution of printed matter that is not solely commercial advertising

§2.60(b) – Livestock use

§2.61(a) – Residing on federal lands

§2.62(b) – Memorialization (Scattering ashes from human cremation)

§4.11(a) – Exceeding established vehicle load, weight and size limits

§5.1 – Advertisements (Display, posting, or distribution.)

§5.3 – Engaging in or soliciting any business (requires a permit, contract or other written agreement with the United States, or must be pursuant to special regulations).

§5.5(a) – Commercial filming of motion pictures or television involving the use of professional casts, settings or crews, other than bona fide newsreel or news television

(b) Still photography of vehicles, or other articles of commerce or models for the purpose of commercial advertising.

§5.6(c) – Use of commercial vehicles on park area roads (A permit is required to cross park lands to access private lands within or adjacent to the park when access is otherwise not available)

§5.7 – Construction of buildings, facilities, trails, roads, path, structure, etc.

§7.47(a) – Cave entry, with the exception of the regular trips into Carlsbad Cavern.

### **III. General Regulations**

#### **36 CFR §2.1 – Preservation of Natural, Cultural and Archeological Resources**

(b) Hiking or pedestrian traffic is restricted to the trail tread, walkway, or designated pathways and routes in all developed caves.

(c)(1) The collection of prickly pear cactus fruits and fruits from the historic Rattlesnake Springs orchard trees will be allowed with the following restrictions:

(c)(2)(i) Fruits may be collected from cactus within 100 feet of the Walnut Canyon Road and the Scenic Loop Drive and from orchard trees at Rattlesnake Springs.

(c)(2)(ii) No more than one gallon of fruits may be collected per person, per day.

#### **36 CFR §2.2 – Wildlife Protection**

(a)(2) The use of blinds for the purpose of wildlife observation is prohibited.

(a)(2) The use of any means of wildlife attraction is prohibited.

(d) The transporting of lawfully taken wildlife through the park is permitted under the following conditions and procedures:

- Wildlife legally taken on lands outside the park may be transported through Carlsbad Caverns National Park if the game is properly tagged as required by state law, if it is transported out of view of park visitors, and when the only practical means of egress is taking a road that crosses through Carlsbad Caverns National Park.

(e) The following areas are closed to the viewing of wildlife with the use of an artificial light:

- All lands within Carlsbad Caverns National Park

#### **36 CFR §2.10 – Camping**

(a) Camping permit terms and conditions:

- Backcountry camping is allowed only West of Rattlesnake Canyon trailhead off the Desert Scenic Drive (Loop Road) and South of the Guadalupe Ridge Trail to the park boundary for approximately two miles after which camping is allowed both North and South of the trail.
- Campsites must be located at least 100 feet off established trails, 300 feet from any water source or cave entrance and ½ mile or 2,600 feet from any road or parking lot.
- Backcountry camping groups are limited to ten (10) persons. Larger groups must hike and camp at least ¼ mile apart in separate areas.
- The permit holder must be eighteen (18) years of age or older
- The maximum stay is seven (7) consecutive nights.
- Vehicle or RV camping is prohibited. Camping is not allowed in any other area, including along any roads, at any parking lot or at any trailhead.

#### **36 CFR 2.13 – Fires**

(a)(1) The lighting or maintaining of fires is generally prohibited, except as provided for in the following designated areas or receptacles, and under the conditions noted:

- Charcoal fires are allowed in grills at the Rattlesnake Springs Picnic Area.
- The use of camp stoves (liquid or gas fuel) is permitted in picnic areas and in backcountry camp sites.

- The use of portable grills (charcoal or gas) is permitted at Rattlesnake Springs Picnic Area and the picnic area located at the southeast corner of the east visitor center parking lot.

(c) High fire danger closures will be in effect as noted:

A prolonged forecast of very high to extreme fire danger, decreased fire suppression staffing levels, national or local preparedness levels 4 or 5, a high local call volume, implementation of fire restrictions on adjoining federal lands, and/or other factors leading to a high risk of unwanted fire spread will prompt the following standard fire restrictions:

- Smoking permitted only inside vehicles or on paved parking areas where smoking is otherwise permitted.
- No open flame
- No cook stoves
- No use of grills in picnic areas
- No flame-emitting device

*Closure Determination/Justification: These protective measures will help to reduce the potential of unwanted fire spread in the park and onto surrounding public and private lands.*

### **36 CFR §2.14 – Sanitation and Refuse**

(a)(8) Designated locations for disposal of human waste include:

- Visitor Center restrooms located at front of building
- Restrooms located in Bat Draw amphitheater
- Underground Rest Area of Carlsbad Cavern

Visitor's disposing of human waste within the caves of Carlsbad Caverns outside the designated locations for such purpose are subject to 36 CFR 2.14(a)(8).

(b) Conditions for the disposal, containerization, or carryout of human body waste have been established for the following:

- Caves: All solid and liquid waste must be carried out of caves. Waste containers may not be left along the trail/route to be picked up later. Other sanitation and refuse disposal conditions may be specified in cave use permits.
- Surface areas: (such as in backcountry camping) Solid human waste should be placed in a shallow hole away from water sources and trails. Toilet paper must be packed out.

### **36 CFR §2.15 – Pets**

- Use of Service Animals: The use of Service Dogs within Carlsbad Caverns and Visitor Center by persons with disabilities is permitted by Superintendent and 28 CFR. Service dogs (animals) are not subject to closures outlined on page three (3) of the Superintendent's Compendium describing areas closed to pets.
- All service animals and pets are subject to 36 CFR 2.15 pertaining to leash or other restraint devices, pet excrement disposal, unreasonable noise, remaining under control of owner, and leaving pet unattended.

"Service animal" means any dog that has been individual-trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability (including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual or other mental disability). Other species of animals, whether wild or domestic, trained or

untrained, are not service animals for the purpose of this definition. Dogs used purely for emotional support are not service animals. A therapy dog is used for therapeutic activities and does not have rights under ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act).

### **36 CFR §2.16 – Horses and Pack Animals**

(a) The following animals are designated as pack animals:

- Horses
- Burros
- Mules
- Llamas
- Alpacas

(b) The use of horses or pack animals is permitted on the following trails, routes or areas:

- Guadalupe Ridge Trail

(g) Other conditions concerning the use of horses or pack animals:

- Horse and pack animal handlers must provide their own feed and water for their animals.
- Animals may not be tied to native vegetation or features.
- Feed carried into designated pack animal use areas must be certified as weed-free.

### **36 CFR §2.17 – Aircraft and Air Delivery**

(c)(1) The removal of a downed aircraft, components, or parts thereof is allowed, subject to a written authorization from the superintendent. The superintendent will establish, on a case- by-case basis, the following terms and conditions for aircraft removal:

- Timeframe for removal
- Times and means of access to the site
- Manner or method of removal

### **36 CFR §2.20 – Skating, Skateboards and Similar Devices**

The use of roller-skates, skateboards, roller skis, coasting vehicles, “heelies”, or similar devices with wheels in sneakers are prohibited except in the following areas:

- All National Park Service residential areas on paved surfaces by residents or guests of residents.

### **36 CFR §2.21 – Smoking**

(a) The following portions of the park, or all or portions of buildings, structures or facilities are closed to smoking:

- All Government-owned buildings and structures, including all restrooms, except permanent employees’ residences with the consent of the residents.
- Smoking within 25 feet of all entrances to government buildings or caves.
- Within 50 feet of gasoline pumps and flammable substance storage areas.

- Bat Flight Amphitheater seating, adjacent patio area, and Natural Entrance Trail (surface).
- Within any cave.
- Other areas as posted and as designated during high fire danger.

*Closure Determination/ Justification: This prohibition will help protect the Park structures and ensures that visitors and employees are not involuntarily exposed to harmful cigarette smoke while at work or entering and leaving government buildings.*

### 36 CFR §2.22 – Property

(a)(2) The following describes areas where property may be left unattended for periods longer than 24 hours, and the conditions under which property may be left:

- Vehicles may be left unattended for more than 24 hours at established trailheads, when the driver is on a backcountry camping trip, with the required permit, and intends to return to the vehicle immediately after the trip.

### 36 CFR §2.23 – Recreation Fees

(a) Recreation fees, in accordance with 36 CFR 71, are established for the following use/entrance fee areas:

<u>Use/Entrance Fee Areas:</u>				
	<u>Adult</u>	<u>Child*</u>	<u>Senior/Access Pass</u>	<u>National Parks Pass</u>
• General Entrance	\$6.00	Free (through age 15)	Free	Free
• King's Palace	\$8.00	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$8.00
• Left Hand Tunnel	\$7.00	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$7.00
• Slaughter Canyon Cave	\$15.00	\$7.50	\$7.50	\$15.00
• Lower Cave	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$20.00
• Hall of the White Giant	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$20.00
• Spider Cave	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$20.00
• Ogle Cave	\$15.00	N/A	\$7.50	\$15.00

\*Child entry on guided tours is subject to the age limits specified under 36 CFR 1.5 in this document. \*\*Holder of National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass, Senior Pass (formerly Golden Age Passport), and Access Pass (formerly Golden Access Passport) plus three individuals free general entrance. Only the holders of a Senior Pass or Access Pass receive one-half off the fee for guided trips.

Note: A general entrance permit is required in addition to designated fees for guided and off-trail entry in Carlsbad Cavern.

(c) The collection of recreation fees may be suspended during the following periods:

- Days as directed by the NPS Washington, DC office and as allowed per DO/RM-22.

### 36 CFR §2.35 – Alcoholic Beverages and Controlled Substances

(a)(3)(i) The following public use areas, portions of public use areas, and/or public facilities within the park are closed to consumption of alcoholic beverages, and/or to the possession of a bottle, can or other receptacle containing an alcoholic beverage that is open, or has been opened, or whose seal has been broken or the contents of which have been partially removed:

- All public buildings

- All parking lots
- Bat Flight Amphitheater and associated patio areas
- All caves
- All paved surface trails.

*Closure Determination/Justification: The consumption of alcoholic beverages in the specified locations is contrary to the purpose for which they were established and maintained and is contrary to the interest of public safety for the visiting and traveling public.*

### **36 CFR §2.51 – Public Assemblies, Meetings**

(e) Public assemblies and meetings are limited to areas designated in Appendix A or other areas designated by written permit.

### **36 CFR § 2.52 – Sale or Distribution of Printed Matter**

(e) Sale and distribution of printed matter is limited to areas designated in Appendix A or other areas designated by written permit.

### **36 CFR §2.61 – Residing on Federal Land**

Absent a permit, lease or contract, residing in park areas on other than private land, is prohibited.

### **36 CFR §2.62 – Memorialization**

(b) A permit is required for the scattering of ashes from cremated human remains in the following areas, and/or according to the following terms and conditions:

- The scattering of cremated remains is allowed pursuant to the terms and conditions of a permit as outlined below:
  1. The remains to be scattered must have been cremated and pulverized.
  2. The scattering of remains by persons on the ground must be performed at least 100 yards from any trail, road, developed facility, or cave.
  3. The scattering of remains from the air must be performed at a minimum altitude of 2000 feet above the ground.
  4. No scattering of remains from the air may be performed over developed areas, facilities, or caves subject to regular or permitted public access.
  5. No scattering of remains may occur in any cave.

### **36 CFR §3.21 – Swimming and Bathing**

(a)(1) The following areas are closed to swimming and bathing:

- Rattlesnake Springs pond, flumes, and other open water
- All springs, seeps, and other natural pools and water sources
- Cave pools

### **36 CFR §4.10 – Travel on Park Roads and Routes**

(a) Park roads, open for travel by motor vehicle are those indicated in the National Geographic/Trails Illustrated map, Carlsbad Caverns National Park, 2007 revision as follows:

- Roads indicated as a “Select Paved Road” or “Improved Road”
- The “Four Wheel Drive Road” that branches off Eddy County Road 418 at the south park boundary leading to the Yucca Canyon Trailhead.
- The Guadalupe Ridge Road between its junction with the Walnut Canyon Desert Drive (Loop Road) and the Lechuguilla Cave Trail Parking Area as authorized or permitted.
- Walnut Canyon Desert Drive (Loop Road) is designated two way traffic from the entrance gate to the water tank repeater site. This includes visitors travelling to and from Spider Cave and employees traveling to and from the water tank and water tank repeater.

### **36 CFR §4.21 – Speed Limits**

(b) The following speed limits are established for the routes/roads indicated:

- 40 mph day/30 mph night for Walnut Canyon Road (park entrance road) from MP 0 to MP 6.0 unless otherwise posted.
- 35 mph for Walnut Canyon Road from MP 6.0 to MP 6.6.
- 25 mph for Walnut Canyon Road from MP 6.6 to MP 6.8.
- 15 mph for Rattlesnake Springs Road, and other unimproved or dirt roads unless otherwise posted.
- 15 mph for Walnut Canyon Desert Drive (Loop Road),
- 15 mph, 10 mph, or 5 mph for congested and/or parking areas, as posted.

*Determination/Justification: The speed limits for the roads/road sections indicated have been set lower than the standards established in 36 CFR §4.21 due to the high potential for injury to animals and people along the main park road and within parking areas, especially at night. The design of Walnut Canyon Road makes higher speeds unsafe.*

### **36 CFR §4.30 – Bicycles**

(a) Bicycle use is permitted on park roads, parking areas, and on the following designated routes:

- Park Roads open for travel by motor vehicle
- Roads indicated as an “Improved Road”
- The “Four Wheel Drive Road” that branches off Eddy County Road 418 at the south park boundary and leading to the Yucca Canyon Trailhead.

The following route is closed to bicycle use:

- All trails including Guadalupe Ridge Road/Trail

*Determination/Justification: Bicycle use on these routes is consistent with the protection of the park area’s natural, scenic and aesthetic values, safety considerations and management objectives and will not disturb wildlife or park resources.*

## **APPENDIX A**

### **Designated Areas for Public Assemblies/Meetings and Sale/Distribution of Printed Matter**

A map identifying locations approved for public assemblies/meetings and the sale/distribution of printed matter is attached.

Park Visitor Center area: The East visitor center parking lot picnic area

Cavern area: The Bat Flight restroom patio area

## **APPENDIX B**

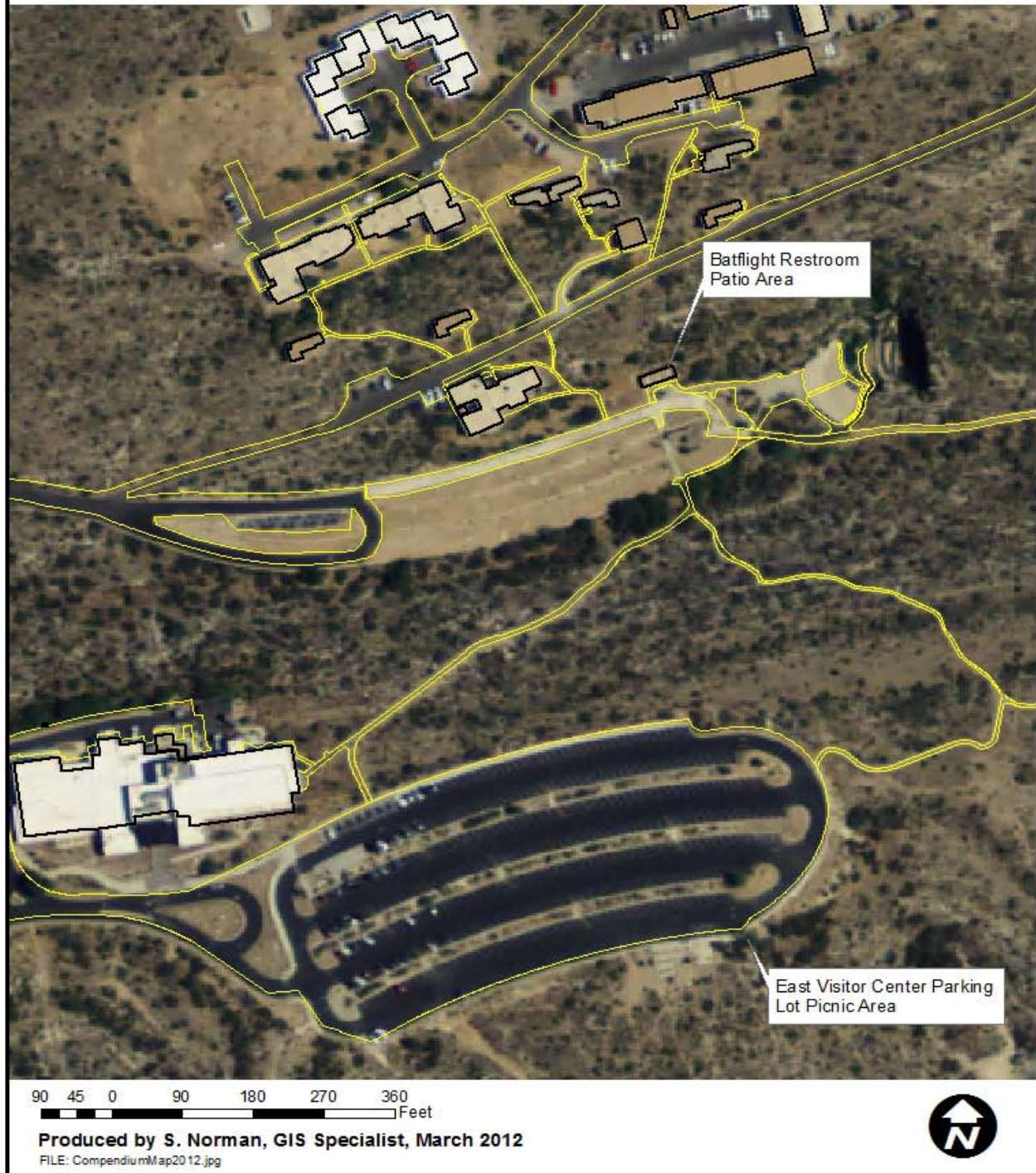
### **Road and Trail Usage**

A map identifying locations approved for biking, hiking, backcountry camping, pets is attached.



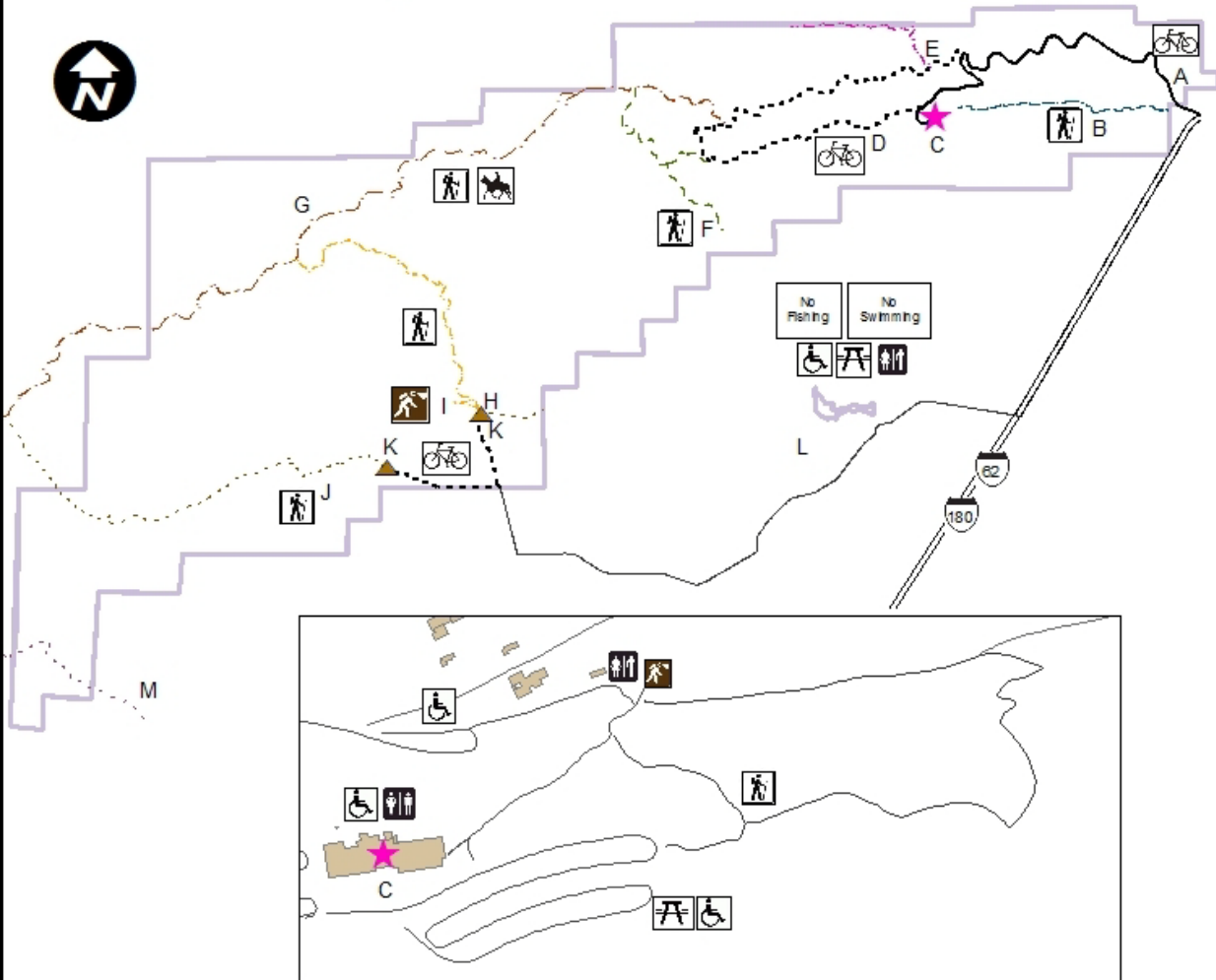


## Designated Areas for Public Assemblies/Meetings and Sale/Distribution of Printed Material





## Road and Trail Usage



- A-Walnut Canyon Road
- B-Old Guano Trail
- C-Visitor Center
- D-Walnut Canyon Desert Drive (Loop Road)
- E-Juniper Ridge Trail
- F-Rattlesnake Canyon Trail
- G-Guadalupe Ridge Trail
- H-Slaughter Canyon Cave Trail Head
- I-Slaughter Canyon Cave Entrance
- J-Yucca Canyon Trail
- K-Trailheads-No Bikes Beyond This Point, Hiking Only
- L-Rattlesnake Springs Picnic Area

2.5 1.25 0 2.5 5 Miles

Produced by S. Norman, GIS Specialist, March 2012

FILE: CompendiumTrails2012.jpg

- Handicap Access
- Restroom
- Picnic Area
- Hiking
- Bicycling
- Cave
- Horseback Riding
- No Fishing
- No Swimming
- Trailhead